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# NOTES



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## Steen receives Outstanding Woman Award

Linda Steen, Superintendent of the Statewide Reception Center in Brownwood, has been selected as one of the winners of the 1988 Outstanding Women in Texas Government awards.

Steen, who is originally from Granbury, Texas was selected as an outstanding woman in the category of "Contributions as a Mentor to Other Women." This category recognizes her commitment to advance the position of other women within state government by sharing guidance and professional skills.

Selection of this award was made by the State Agency Liaison Group of the Governor's Commis-

sion for Women. This award is an opportunity for state agencies to honor the contributions that women have made to the State of Texas.

Steen, who began her career with the Youth Commission in 1972 as an administrative secretary, has held numerous positions leading to her job of superintendent of the Statewide Reception Center. Steen earned both her undergraduate and graduate degrees and has advanced through various child care positions during her fourteen years of employment with the agency.

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Linda Steen accepts Outstanding Woman Award at Capitol Rotunda, November 30.

## 1988 Commitments Decrease 14%

### Minority youth commitments continue to increase

The number of youth committed to the state's juvenile corrections agency, the Texas Youth Commission, decreased 14% from fiscal year 1987 to 1988 (September 1, 1987 to August 31, 1988). A comparison of 1987 and 1988 statistics shows that 1,907 youth were committed to TYC in 1988, a decrease of 305 youth from the 2,212 committed during fiscal year 1987.

A primary reason for the reduction in commitments has been an effort of county juvenile probation departments to only commit youth who have exhausted local resources or who have committed serious offenses. However, since 1981, averaging all commitments over that period of time, TYC has ex-

perienced a 3% annual average increase in commitments.

The report indicated that several large metropolitan counties experienced decreases in the number of youth sent to TYC. Travis County sent 44% less youth in FY 1988 from 73 to 41 youth. Nueces County sent 37% less youth in FY 1988 from 68 to 43 youth. Other large counties and their increase/decrease in commitments are as follows: Bexar County 222 in 1987, 160 in FY 1988; El Paso County 106 in 1987, 158 in 1988; Harris County 383 in 1987, 336 in 1988; Tarrant County 145 in 1987, 175 in 1988; Dallas County 151 in 1987, 137 in 1988.

(See p. 2)

## Giddings football team completes winning season

On September 29, the Giddings State School "Indians" defeated the Texas School for the Deaf junior varsity football team 44-0, ending the 1988 football season with three wins and one defeat.

The Indians posted a 10-6 win over Calvert and dropped a close game to Burton 20-16.

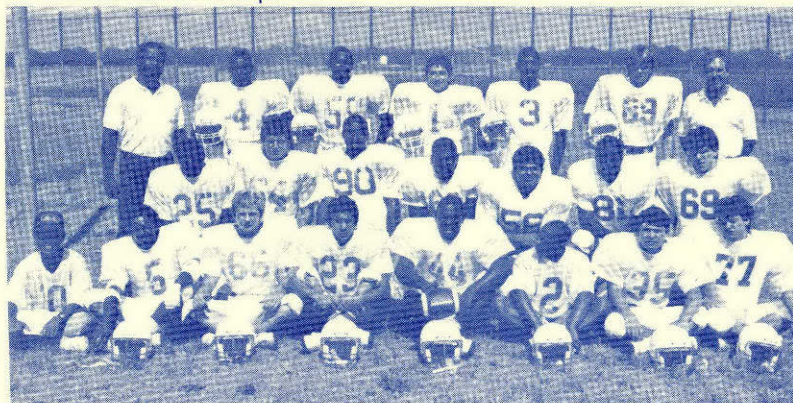
The Indians are coached by staff members Lester Ward and Sandy Brown. Coach Ward said "Foot-

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**Giddings football team** ----- Continued from p. 1

ball teaches our young people alot about life and it motivates them to stay in school so they can continue their athletic careers when they leave Giddings."

Following the successful season, a sports banquet was held for the team which marked the perfect end to a very successful and memorable football season.



*Giddings 1988 football team*

**Bilingual Education Grants Awarded to TYC**

In August 1988, the Texas Youth Commission received official notification that two Title XII Bilingual Education Grants from the United States Department of Education (USDOE) had been approved.

The grant will fund a bilingual/bicultural English-As-A-Second Language (ESL) educational program. The West Texas Children's Home, which serves the majority of the agency's Mexican National students and which usually has about a 65% Hispanic student population is the recipient of this grant.

The grant, which is funded for a three year period, will provide funding for a bilingual guidance counselor, a bilingual curriculum development specialist, seven bilingual classroom aides, and bilingual instructional materials. The first year's level of funding is \$337,966. Subsequent funding for the remaining two years will be slightly less each year due to initial start-up costs and TYC's responsibility to demonstrate a commitment to the project. The assistant principal at the West Texas Children's Home will serve as project director.

The second bilingual grant has been awarded for a TYC program at the Giddings State School. In this instance, the grant is the type awarded to programs who have achieved "Academic Excellence" as measured by pre-testing and post testing the students and comparing the testing with the test results of non-program students. Because of the demonstrated success of the existing English-As-A-Second Language (ESL) Program, it has been designated by the USDOE as having achieved academic excellence. The primary purpose for this grant will be to share the successful techniques and curriculum materials used in the program with other educational programs, including public school districts and other TYC facilities, which operate or are planning ESL programs. The grant will fund a project coordinator who will be responsible for developing all materials for dissemination effort. The grant includes a data management component which provides computer equipment for storing and analyzing student test results and storing demographic information. Also included are funds for consultant support with curriculum and materials development. The grant will be funded

**1988 Commitments**

(continued from p. 1)

The percentage of minority youth committed to TYC continued to increase from the previous fiscal year. In FY 1987, 41% of total commitments were Hispanic. In FY 1988, Hispanics accounted for 42% of all commitments. Additionally, Black commitments rose from 27% in FY 1987 to 28% in FY 1988. Correspondently, the percentage of Anglo youth sent to TYC declined from 31% to 29%.

Violent offenders accounted for 11% of all commitments, a total of 203 violent offenders were committed to TYC in FY 1988.

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for three years, with the first year funded for \$109,976.

Both grants required an evaluation component, and provides for an outside evaluator who will assess the degree to which project activities have been achieved.

Funding for the West Texas grant began October 1, 1988. The Giddings grant period began on August 1, 1988.

## Agency's First Volunteer Coordinator Retires

Nancy Miller of Brownwood, the first volunteer coordinator in the Texas Youth Commission, was honored at a retirement dinner on October 27 in Brownwood.

Ms. Miller went to work at the Brownwood State School in 1972 under a Hogg Foundation Grant obtained by then superintendent Ron Jackson, now TYC's executive director.

Speaking in appreciation of Ms. Miller's many years of service to the agency were Brownwood Superintendent Don Pagett; Reception Center Superintendent Linda Steen; former Superintendents Byron Griffin, Bill Doggett, Mart Hoffman and Jackson; Brownwood community advisory council member Judy Ehrke; and Joan Timmons, Chief of Volunteer Services.

A framed resolution by the TYC Board in appreciation of her contributions was presented to Ms. Miller by Jackson.

About 100 guests from the Brownwood institutions, community advisory council and

community residents attended the event.

Students and staff at Brownwood State School declared Monday, October 24th "Nancy Miller Day" and picketed the entrance with placards reading "Don't Retire....."

Ms. Miller has involved hundreds of local residents as volunteers, and more than 200 have served on the advisory council. She has been responsible for assisting in more than \$1 million in donated goods and services to the students at Brownwood institutions over the years. In addition to her

duties as volunteer coordinator, she also served as grievance coordinator for several years.

Ms. Ehrke summed up the comments of those attending: "Her office may be filled, but she can never be replaced."



Brownwood Superintendents that Miller served under include (pictured l to r) Bill Doggett, Linda Steen, Don Pagett, Byron Griffin, Mart Hoffman, and Ron Jackson. Not pictured are Carey Cockerell and Steve M. Robinson.

## Steen-----

(continued from p. 1)

An exhibit honoring this year's Outstanding Women in Texas Government was displayed in the Capitol Rotunda during Women in Texas Week, which was held November 27 - December 3, 1988.

## Elton Strother receives award

Elton Strother, Parole Supervisor for Central Region, received the distinguished Clayton-Morrison award during the 43rd Annual Texas Institute on Children and Youth workshop. The workshop was attended by over 100 participants from various organizations that deal with children and youth in some capacity or another, including Juvenile Probation, Texas Youth Commission, Department of Human Services, and numerous non-profit facilities. The workshop was

held September 11-15 at Mo Ranch, which is located in Hunt in the Texas hill country. Adrian Moore, Central Region Director made the presentation.

This endowed award is given annually to the most outstanding youth worker in the State of Texas and was created in the early 1960's in the name of Bess Clayton who was a champion of hard working and unrecognized juvenile officers.

After she married Judge Morrison in the early 1970's, the name of the award was changed to the Clayton-Morrison Award and the criteria expanded to include anyone working with youth in the State.

## Parole Survey reflects statistics on youth's school status

The Education Department of the Texas Youth Commission conducted a survey to reflect statistics on the school status of youth who were paroled from Youth Commission residential care programs from September 1987 to April 1988. The programs which were evaluated included the institutions and community based facilities.

The information which was obtained from TYC parole officers in June 1988, is summarized (see Table I, p. 5) and indicates that almost all (88%) youth paroled from TYC under the compulsory school attendance age and almost half (44%) of those above the compulsory attendance age were enrolled in school. Of all those who did enroll in school, only 48% were still enrolled by the end of the year. The highest at-risk students, ones with an obvious at-risk identification upon enrollment, have a severe drop-out rate from the public schools. Most youth entered public school after leaving TYC residential care, but the vast majority of them discontinued school enrollment before the school year concluded.

Also, few youth who discontinued school attendance were

### Dr. Spence passes away

Dr. Allen Spence, attending physician for the Brownwood State School and the Statewide Reception Center, passed away on September 5, after a massive coronary.

Dr. Spence began his employment with the Texas Youth Commission on May 4, 1970 as the first and only attending physician and medical director of these facilities and served in that capacity for over 18 years.

Dr. Spence touched the lives of thousands of TYC youth and

employed or were enrolled in alternative training programs.

The percentages of youth who enrolled in school and remained there were very comparable among the three major racial/ethnic groups. The most noticeable difference among the three groups was that 75% of both the black and white student groups who were in school at the end of the school year passed but only 59% of the Hispanic group did.

The percentages of youth in school at the end of the school year, 48% of just those who enrolled and 29% of all youth paroled, are disappointingly low, unless viewed from the standpoint that almost every one of these youth would probably not have continued in school had the juvenile justice system not intervened in their lives.

It should be pointed out that 48% of the seventeen year old youth released from TYC institutions had obtained a GED diploma, so many seventeen year olds in the survey did have a high school equivalency diploma, although they had not completed requirements for a regular high school diploma. According to

viewed each young person as special and exhibited patience and sensitivity in responding to their needs. He was held in the highest esteem by his co-workers for his integrity and pride in his profession.

The Texas Youth Commission Board payed tribute to Dr. Spence and recognized the many contributions to the youth of the State of Texas by passing a resolution during its November Board meeting.

the survey results, seventeen year olds with a GED entered public school as often as other seventeen year olds.

Perhaps the biggest programmatic deficit identified in the study was that only 3% of paroled youth were in alternative training programs. If public schools cannot retain and appropriately serve these problem youth, then alternative training programs, such as Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) funded programs, must.

### NOTES

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**TYC Notes** is a quarterly newsletter written for TYC employees. If you have any questions or wish to contribute information for this publication, please forward them to the attention of:  
Rita Z. Torres, Editor

**Table 1.**

**Survey Results for 1987-1988 School Year  
of Texas Youth Commission Youth Paroled September 1987 - April 1988**

	All (1278)	*Age 16 + (745)	Age 15- (523)	Female (112)	Male (1166)	Black (318)	Hispanic (557)	White (399)
<b><u>School Enrollees:</u></b>								
% enrolling in school	61	44	88	60	62	59	62	60
% later quitting	44	57	35	53	43	42	45	43
% later expelled from school	8	7	9	3	9	10	7	7
% still enrolled end of school year	48	37	55	43	48	47	47	50
<b><u>Status at end of school year:</u></b>								
% enrolled in school	29	16	48	26	30	28	29	30
% employed or in alternative training	21	33	8	18	22	19	22	25
% not in school, training or employment	49	51	45	57	48	55	48	45

\*Youth 16 years of age by September 1, 1987, were above compulsory school attendance age.

## Administrators appointed

Jerry Day has been appointed superintendent of the Gainesville State School effective September 1.

Day replaced retiring Tom Riddle who has been top administrator of the TYC facility for 20 years.

An Oklahoma University alumnus, Day has been with the agency since December 1973, and has served in various capacities including director of institutions, superintendent of the Crockett State School, superintendent of the Reception Center at the Gainesville State School, and superintendent of the Reception Center in Brownwood.

Effective October 1, Dr. Elise Orman has been named Chief of Counseling replacing Dr. Matt Ferrara, who resigned to work for the Texas Department of Corrections.

Orman served as the psychologist at the Giddings State School prior to transferring to central office as assistant chief of counseling. Dr. Orman received her bachelor's and master's of education degrees from the University of Houston and her Ph.D. in psychology from Texas A&M.

## Brownwood man elected chairman

Joe Huff of Brownwood was elected chairman of the 1988-89 State Volunteer Resource Council during the group's annual meeting October 21 in South Padre Island. Huff served as vice chairman last year.

He replaces Peg Johnson of Giddings who completed a two-year term.

Elected vice-chairman of the State Council was Ken Neeley of Austin. Neeley is also chairman of the Austin Area Community Advisory Council.

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## TYC Recidivism Rate Stable

The Department of Research and Planning recently released statistics that updated the agency's recidivism figures for FY 1988. The report indicated an agencywide recidivism rate of 38%. The study included all youth who were released onto parole or discharged from the agency from July 1, 1984 through June 30, 1985. The recidivism rate is the percentage of this group who, within three years to date of their individual release, had their parole revoked, were recommitted to TYC by a juvenile court, or were admitted to the Texas Department of Corrections. The rates by program type were as follows:

<u>Program Type</u>	<u>#Released</u>	<u>%Recidivating</u>
Training Schools	1694	43.2%
Corsicana RTC	18	22.2%
TYC Camps	95	50.5%
Halfway Houses	269	24.2%
Contract Care	427	25.8%
Other	31	12.9%
Total	2534	38.0%

Within training schools, the rates were:

<u>Program Type</u>	<u>#Released</u>	<u>%Recidivating</u>
Brownwood	381	43.0%
Crockett	196	51.0%
Giddings	273	33.7%
Gainesville	476	47.7%
West Texas	368	40.5%

This data was supplemented by an examination of arrest and conviction rates within one, two and three year periods, as follows:

	<u>Within 1 Year</u>	<u>Within 2 Years</u>	<u>Within 3 Years</u>
% Arrested	32.9	53.4	61.8
% Convicted	21.2	36.1	42.1
% Reincarcerated	19.4	31.8	38.0

Chuck Jeffords, TYC's Director of Research and Planning, stated that "the overall agency recidivism rate has been fairly stable over the past several years. This is the first time we have examined arrest and conviction rates, and we will continue to do so. However, we believe that the conviction data in particular is a gross underrepresentation of the true rates, due to a lack of entry and late entry of judicial records into the Career Criminal History system maintained by the Texas Department of Public Safety, which is our source of adult records information." He indicated that DPS staff recently reported at a House Committee on Corrections' Subcommittee on Uniform Tracking and Statistics meeting that only about 40 percent of judicial records are entered into the DPS system, and that there is about a year long backlog for doing so.

## Brownwood Man Elected ---- continued from p. 5

Barbara Albrecht of McAllen, who served as chairman of the 1988 TYC volunteer conference, was elected secretary. She replaces Joan Cummins of Corsicana.

Re-elected to the office of treasurer was Manuel Martinez of Crockett.

The State Council Board of Directors is composed of a representative from each local volun-

teer council. The State Board will hold a spring meeting in March at Central Office to discuss projects and begin planning for the 1989 TYC Volunteer Conference, slated tentatively in Austin.

## Continuous Case Management Pilot Project initiated

The Texas Youth Commission has initiated a continuous case management pilot project to enhance and articulate the agency's philosophy of individualized services for committed youth.

Continuous case management (CSM) is the process of designating authority and responsibility to one individual, called a case services manager, for planning and managing services provided to a youth and his/her family from the time of commitment through discharge from TYC.

This project will utilize diverse programs which are pro-active and youth centered and will develop a process for the planning and provision of youth program services. The program will identify resources and strategies to remove obstacles so that youth accountability and

successful community reintegration is enhanced. These services will include:

- focus on youth accountability and successful community reintegration from the time of commitment until discharge;
- are youth needs centered and pro-active; and
- provide a continuum of care and ensure continuity of service.

The case load for the case services managers will be a random selection of youths committed that represents a cross-section of agency classification types. Cases assigned to the CSM will be from three specific urban counties. The maximum active case load for the CSM will be from fifteen to twenty high risk youths.

Initially, the CSM will be assigned three youths who are scheduled to be released from an institution, a halfway house, or a contract care program. Additional youth will be assigned at a maximum rate of three per week which includes nine from new commitments and three from those in placement less than 30 days.

During the pilot phase, three case services managers will be employed and will be assigned to the North, Central and East region. Each CSM will be directly supervised by his respective regional director within the framework of a cooperative relationship with institutional superintendents and contract case administration.

## Texas Key Program awarded contract bids

On August 31, 1988, three contracts were awarded to the Texas Key Program, Incorporated, for the development of Intensive Supervision, Day Treatment and Hard-To-Place youth programs in Houston. These innovative programs will serve approximately 144 youth in fiscal year 1990 at a cost of \$995,355.

The Intensive Supervision program became operational October 1 and provides intensive supervision services for twenty one youths. This program is designed for youth who are generally on parole and who have completed residential programs, but who still require more intensive, structured supervision. Youth who no longer need residential care and/or who have been unable to successfully

complete a thirty (30) day furlough may also be placed into this placement.

The program delivers a variety of casework services including group and/or individual counseling as needed, educational support, medical/legal advocacy, recreation, transportation, family services, vocational services, and crisis intervention. Casework staff monitor the activities of youth throughout the day and at night.

The Hard-To-Place program provides secure, twenty-four hour care and residential treatment services to twelve male youth ages fourteen through seventeen who have not been successful in home placement or other community placement.

These youth are those being placed from residential treatment, Texas Youth Commission training schools or from dysfunctional family settings. This program will deliver a variety of services including clinical counseling, aftercare services and educational and vocational programs. This program is expected to open December 1988.

The Day Treatment program provides nonresidential day treatment services for eighteen male or female youth ages ten through twenty one. Typical youth requiring day treatment services include youth on parole who are part of a dysfunctional family system which contributes to a continued delinquency; youth who have completed a

(Continued on p. 8)

## Brownwood State School Ropes Course Training

This summer, staff from Project Adventure, Inc. of Hamilton, Massachusetts and Brownwood State School employees collaborated on the design and construction of a Challenge Rope Course on the campus.

A Ropes Course Program is designed to capture the spirit and purpose of an outward bound wilderness experience and deliver those values safely and economically. This program is a way to address the important goals of outward bound within the constraints of the institutional environment.

A Ropes courses may be found in all fifty states and in several foreign countries; however, this is the first within a Texas Youth Commission program. This program is used in a wide variety of psychiatric, educational, recreational and correctional settings. "Ropes course programs have proven to be particularly effective with chemically dependent youth, and uses the program as a tool...a catalyst for personal and educational growth," said

Don Pagett, Superintendent of the Brownwood State School. The course is a blend of low and high activities, presented in a prescribed sequence, designed to take individuals and groups beyond their own expectations, or perceived willingness to try.

"Most first-time participants admit to a perception of high risk when, in fact, the real risk is extremely low. It is because of this dynamic, though, that participants are engaged in a 'Challenge by Choice' approach with no coercion," he continued. A reasonable willingness to try is the criteria for success. The actual mastering of a particular feat is not as important as the attempt itself. It is through a series of attempts that strangers become friends, friends form groups, and groups become teams.

Pagett said that safety considerations are of the utmost importance in adventure programs. "In a recent national study, it was shown that Ropes Course safety records minimally parallel, and

usually exceed, the records of traditional school physical education classes," he said.

The Brownwood State School staff were briefed on the intent of the program and have participated in several in-service sessions presented by youth program supervisor Jack Patton, Medical/Psychiatric Caseworker Mike Mink, and staff trainer Mike Qunell. Also, several Central Region and Gainesville State School staff have visited the course and accepted its many challenges. Several central office administrators have also participated in a program demonstration.

Pagett concluded that "full implementation of the Ropes Course Program for staff and students will begin immediately following professional training scheduled for mid-November."

## Texas Key

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residential program but who still require more supervision that what is considered to be age appropriate in a structured, therapeutic environment to prevent regression and revocation; and youth who have been unable to successfully complete a thirty (30) day furlough but who no longer need residential care.

The program delivers a variety of services including a clinical component, group and individual counseling as needed, educational programs, behavior management, recreation, food services, health services and transportation. The day program also provides intensive supervision and family counseling to reinforce the day treatment program. This program will become operation in January 1989.

## Corsicana Mural Project

A large-scale mural project by Corsicana students was dedicated by the Corsicana Community Advisory Council and the Corsicana State Home on September 1 in the campus gymnasium. Three of the murals from the "New Visions" mural project are currently being displayed in various parts of the campus.

This artist-in-education project was sponsored by the Navarro Council of the Arts, the Texas Commission on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Texas Youth Commission Wende Fund, and the Corsicana State Home Advisory Council.

Dallas artist Deborah Dobbins worked over a three-week span with thirty five Corsicana students to create this new and dynamic piece of art. Visiting artist Deborah Leveranz with the Southwest Media Project in Houston, produced a video tape that provides insight into the individual's participation in the process. It focuses on the building of self-esteem, self-discipline and communication skills through encouraging self reflection and expression.



## AHERA Law Encourages Asbestos Removal

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), a new federal law that went into effect October 22, 1986, is having a direct effect on Texas Youth Commission facilities and its construction and renovation program. The new law, administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), requires all school districts, which includes TYC, to inspect all buildings in the school's system, test building materials for the presence of asbestos, submit an Asbestos Management Plan to the Governor's office (Texas Department of Health is managing the program for the Governor) by October 12, 1988, and implement the plan no later than July 9, 1989.

The abatement work is scheduled to begin in early 1989. (Abatement is the term used for either properly removing, enclosing or encapsulating asbestos materials.) TYC's goal is to remove as much asbestos as is economically feasible and/or physically practical.

Last spring the TYC Board authorized employing three asbestos consultants to survey six state schools and the Statewide Reception Center for the presence of asbestos. The consultants have completed their surveys, and prepared abatement plans for removing asbestos in buildings currently scheduled for renovation and remodeling. Bids for this work will be received and opened in December of this year. Funding for the removal of all remaining asbestos materials is included in the 1990-91 Biennium Legislative Budget Request. R.B. Klug, Chief of Construction, and the agency's certified asbestos manager, will begin preparing our asbestos management plan as soon as the currently scheduled abatement work is bid. Early in January he will survey Evins Center and the halfway houses, completing the agencywide survey started last summer. The Management Plan will be presented to the Board in March and distributed to TYC facilities early next summer.

The asbestos containing materials (ACM) present in TYC buildings is in good condition and does not pose a threat to employee's or student's health. The current abatement program will target buildings the consultants recommended clearing first. These buildings are not currently unhealthy, but could become so in the future if measures were not to be taken soon.

Asbestos is a mineral fiber which used to be included in many building products for fire proofing and as a binder. It is a very strong material and will not burn, however; when inhaled it can cause lung cancer and asbestosis, a lung disease. The Maintenance and Construction Department has been monitoring ACM for several years and, to date, has not found any situation where it has been necessary to close a building.

## TYC Explores Youth Exchange Program with Mexico

Following an initial proposal in May 1988 in a meeting in Monterrey, Mexico, a meeting was held in Austin, November 1-2 to establish procedures for returning illegal alien juvenile offenders to their respective countries (i.e. Mexico) for incarceration.

The Texas Youth Commission generally has about 60 Mexican Nationals in its institutions who would be eligible to be returned to Mexico and placed in its juvenile programs under a legal mandate to rehabilitate them in

order to return them to their home community," said Ron Jackson, Executive Director of the agency. "Many of our wards who are Mexican Nationals are returned home with no ability by this agency to monitor their activities or assist in their reintegration back into society."

A U.S. Treaty signed by President Carter in 1976 enabled the legal return of both adult and juvenile illegal aliens and immigrants, but procedures have

never been put in place for juvenile offenders.

Gilbert Pena, Extradition Counsel for the Criminal Justice Division of the Governor's Office, discussed during the meeting how the adult system works under this treaty and necessary procedures to begin a transfer of juveniles.

## FY 1988-1989 Major Construction Program

Construction projects currently underway, according to R. B. Klug, Chief of Maintenance and Construction, include the Gainesville State School perimeter security fence. The expected completion date is February 1989.

The fifteen foot high unique cantilever design is patterned by First Defense, International Security Company of South Carolina. The fence is the second of this type and design to be installed in the State of Texas.

The estimated cost of the perimeter fence is \$1.6 million.

Architects for the fence are Bury & Pittman Inc., of Austin.

Bids will be opened November 15 for renovation and remodel work of dormitories and support facilities at the Gainesville State School.

The renovation buildings and remodel work includes the security dorm, gymnasium, academic and academic annex building, infirmary, dormitories, water tower, and reroofing on various buildings and life safety code improvements.

Actual construction is expected to begin January 15, 1989, with completion expected in early 1990. Cost of the renovation is estimated at \$2 million.

Architects are Dailey, Wann and Michael of Austin.

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Bids will be opened on December 20 for major repairs, electrical improvements, and reroofing at the Brownwood State School and the Statewide Reception Center. An additional dorm will also be added to the Reception Center. Estimated construction

cost for these projects is \$1.4 million.

Repairs and construction is expected to begin February 1989, with a completion date of February 1990.

Architects are Cox/Croslin and Associations of Austin.

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Bids for kitchen renovation, major repairs, utility improvements, reroofing and remodeling of the security buildings at the Corsicana State Home will be opened January 1989. Construction is expected to begin February 1989, with a completion date of February 1990.

Construction cost is estimated at \$1.3 million.

Architects for the project are Coffee, Crier and Schenck of Austin.

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A contract has been awarded to Timberline Constructors, Inc. of Lufkin, for the construction of a new maintenance building at the Crockett State School. Estimated construction cost is \$343,500.

Construction is expected to begin November 17, 1989 with completion scheduled for June 4.

Architects are White, Budd, VanNess Partnership of Austin.

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Bids will also open about December 15 for building repairs, construction of a new vocational education building, renovations of dormitories, gymnasium and infirmary, life safety code improvements, air conditioning

gymnasium, roof repairs and perimeter lighting improvements at the Crockett.

Estimated cost for the work is \$2.5 to \$3.5 million, with construction expected to begin February 1989, and completion in February 1990.

Architects are White, Budd, VanNess Partnership of Austin.

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Bids will open November 14 for building repairs, life safety code improvements, air conditioning of a gymnasium, building alterations, perimeter lighting improvements and street repairs at the Giddings State School.

Estimated date of construction is January 1989, with completion expected November 1989. Cost of construction is estimated at \$1.8 million.

Architect is O'Neil Gregory of Houston.

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West Texas Children's Home construction projects include a vocational building, renovation of one dormitory, life safety code improvements, perimeter lighting improvements, miscellaneous building repairs and roof repairs. Bids are expected to open December 1, with construction expected to begin February 1989. Completion of these projects is expected in early 1990.

Estimated cost of construction is \$1.8 million.

Architects are Mervin Moore and Associations of El Paso.

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## Fifth Annual Volunteer Conference

Highlighting the Fifth Annual TYC Volunteer Conference October 20-22 was the presentation of awards to our 1988 outstanding volunteers.

Named this year's Outstanding Individual Volunteer was Raymond Aguilar of Beto House. He has contributed between 50 and 100 volunteer hours per month at that facility for several years.

Outstanding Volunteer Group was the West Hill Church of Christ of Corsicana, whose members have been active in volunteer activities at the Corsicana State Home in a variety of ways for the past five years.

Outstanding Employee Volunteer is Swede Erickson of Brownwood State School. In addition to his regular chaplain duties, he volunteers his time to accompany students on field trips and to volunteer activities in the community.

Outstanding Student Group award was given to two student groups: Crockett State School student body and Boy Scout Troop 201 at the Corsicana State Home. Crockett students received the award for their massive volunteer activities in the community this past year, cleaning up old highways and cemeteries. The Scouts received the award for continuous long-time volunteer activities, including their Adopt-A-Highway project.

A special award was given to the volunteer chaplain at the Statewide Reception Center, Mickey Harr, who has counseled with nearly every TYC student at the time of commitment for the past three years. Mickey spends about 100 hours a month at the Reception Center, and also holds down a full-time paid job outside the agency.



*TYC students who made presentations during the Volunteer Conference include (l to r) Ruben Ramirez, San Antonio; Lisa Almodovar, Elgin; and Ralph Lara, Valley House.*

The First Lady of Texas Award, which is given only during years when a volunteer has provided exceptional service to the Agency and our youth, was presented to Peg Johnson, outgoing chairman of the State Volunteer Resource Council. Peg has traveled (on her own funds) to every institution and halfway house both years while she served as State Council chairman, and has met with nearly every local volunteer council in an effort to stimulate their local activities.

Eighty-five volunteers and staff registered for the conference, held at the South Padre Island Hilton Resort Hotel. Executive Director Ron Jackson gave the keynote speech. Jackson presented Peg Johnson a framed copy of the resolution passed by the TYC Board concerning her

long time volunteer service to the Agency, and a TYC branding iron.

Also speaking during the general session were three outstanding TYC students, Ralph Lara of Valley House; Ruben Ramirez of San Antonio, formerly from the Crockett State School; and Lisa Almodovar of Elgin, foster daughter of last year's Outstanding Individual Volunteer Sandra Menley.

A highlight of the conference was an opening reception aboard the Isabella Queen, hosted by the sponsoring TYC volunteer councils from Harlingen, McAllen and Corpus Christi, and staff at the Evins Regional Juvenile Center.

## Construction -----(Continued from p. 10)

Phase II of construction for the Evins Regional Juvenile Center includes two 24-bed dormitories, an academic building and a recreation facility with an adjacent swimming pool.

Bids for construction will open in late December with construction expected to begin in early 1989. Completion of this phase is expected late 1989 or early 1990. Completion of this construction will allow the 48-bed institution to open in early 1990 in Edinburg.

Estimated cost of construction is \$3.5 million. Architects are Jessen Inc. of Austin.

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## Doyle reelected to Group Insurance Committee

Dotty Doyle, TYC personnel assistant at the Gainesville State School, was reelected for a second three-year term to the Group Insurance Advisory Committee, effective September 1.

The Group Insurance Advisory Committee was established in 1985 to advise and consult with the Board of Trustees of the Employees Retirement System on matters concerning all insurance coverage provided under the Uniform Group Insurance Program Trustee Rules of the Employees Retirement System.

Doyle has been an employee of the Gainesville State School for 24 years. As personnel assistant she is responsible for providing technical and personnel management and coordination of personnel programs.

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